

WEST LAFAYETTE TRAFFIC COMMISSION
WEST LAFAYETTE CITY BUILDING
WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA

TIME: 5:00 pm, Tuesday, September 21, 2010

PLACE: Lower Level Conference Room

PRESENT:	Dave Buck	Vicki Burch	David Downey
	Carrie Ehresman	Jim Knapp	Chris Leroux
	Kathleen Mills	Karen O'Farrell	Larry Preo
	Kumares Sinha	Larry Wood	Boudewijn van Gelder

VISITORS:	David Choi	Beth Cook	Michelle Debord
	Amy Fisher	John Gotwals	David Lasater
	Janet Lee	Bradley Marley	Lena Martinez
	Fuqiang Wang		

Chairman Sinha brought the meeting to order and determined there was a quorum. Mr. Wood made a motion to approve the July minutes and Mr. van Gelder seconded. The July minutes were approved as written.

NEW BUSINESS:

10-06 University Farm Resident Concerns

Several members in the University Farms neighborhood were present at the meeting to discuss their concerns of speeding vehicles on the streets in their neighborhood. The citizens of University Farms would like to make the Traffic Commission members aware of these concerns and would like to find a reasonable solution to end the problem.

Mr. Gotwals, a resident of University Farms, is concerned that the excessive speeds are not only residents but that they are using the neighborhood as a cut-thru to avoid the traffic light at the corner of Salisbury and Kalberer.

Several members agreed with Mr. Gotwals that it may be used as a cut-thru but that most of the offenders actually live in the neighborhood and are not using it as a cut-thru. Mr. Marley stated he has observed speeds up to 60 mph on the streets of University Farms. Another member stated that she has observed teen-age drivers drag racing on the streets.

Ms. Martinez wanted to know why the speed limit is 30 mph, the same as the speed limit on Salisbury? A few of the residents mentioned they would like to see the speed limit lowered to 20 mph. Mr. Buck stated 20 mph speed limit is reserved for school zones. The developer of University Farms had posted the speed at 30 mph, which is standard for the design of these streets. He is not opposed to lowering it to 25 mph. He has agreed to look at previous data and see if lowering the speed to 25 mph is warranted. He is concerned that even if the limit is lowered it will not change the behavior of people speeding through the neighborhood. Mr. Buck also stated that one option is speed humps, but most

neighborhoods initially want speed humps, but no one wants them in front of their house. The homeowners agreed that they do not want speed humps in front of their house.

Ms. O'Farrell stated that she and other homeowners in the Wabash Shores neighborhood had come to the Traffic Commission members with these same complaints. She said that targeted patrols worked extremely well in her neighborhood.

Ms. Mills who also lives in University Farms stated that she has also observed teenagers and adults speeding through the neighborhood. She agrees that targeted patrols are a good idea.

Mr. Leroux stated he would be glad to help by sending officers to the area to enforce the speed limit and installing message speed boards. This may put an end to speeding when the officers are present but it will not put an end to the problem. He asked the homeowners to get the word out that there will be targeted patrols in the area.

Mr. Sinha suggests the neighborhood put out fliers and get together to make everyone aware of the issue and that there will be enforcement in the area. He also suggested they discuss what they think would be best for their neighborhood. He also asked the Engineer's office to review the data and collect new speed count data to help determine a solution to their concerns.

OLD BUSINESS:

08-14 Neighborhood Parking Permit

Ms. Cook informed the commission members she has looked at the properties on 1220 and 1228 Ravinia and there was no reason they would not be able to participate in the Neighborhood Parking Permit Program. Both properties were added to the Zone 2 of the NP Program. 1228 Ravinia has already purchased two parking permits and she believes that 1220 is aware that they are able to purchase permits, but does not know if they have purchased them at this time.

10-01 Citizen Concerns

Mr. Buck informed the commission members that Ms. Hunt's concern for sight distance is still being reviewed on Russell Street , but it is not looking good to add more yellow curb at this time.

Ms. Esherman asked if the city could put a warning sign up for bicycles on the north side of the sidewalk along State Street. Mr. Buck said we can make a request to INDOT and include focused enforcement in that area.

NEXT MEETING: 5:00 pm, Tuesday, November 16, 2010, Lower Level Conference Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D.M. Buck", written over a horizontal line.

David M. Buck, P.E.
City Engineer
DMB/md